

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How Does This Non-profit Program Save My Tax Dollars?

A. Police investigations cost from hundreds to thousands of dollars depending on the resources required to close a case. One tip to Crime Stoppers can eliminate hundreds of work hours in background checks and field investigations. Many tips lead to the criminal source.

Q. How Effective Is Crime Stoppers?

A. Increased reports of crime and a greater number of criminals being apprehended, indicted and convicted are proof that Crime Stoppers works. While crime prevention continues to be our best means of reducing crime, Crime Stoppers can help assure swift, sure punishment for those who break the law. In the Central Virginia localities, 6,387 felony crimes were committed in 1998, an average of 17 a day. Together, we can reduce these statistics.

Q. What Happens When I Call the Crime Stoppers Number?

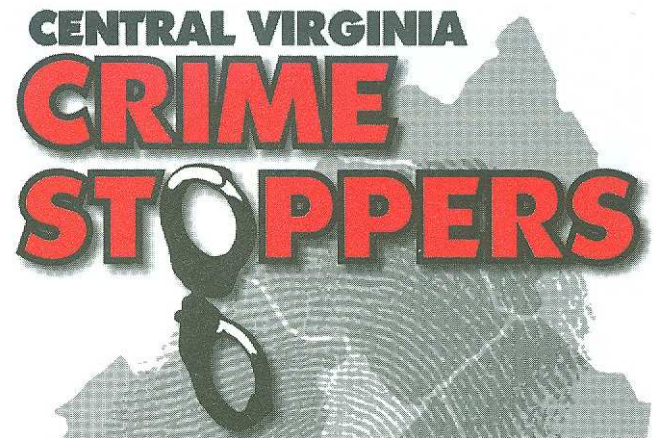
A. You never have to reveal your name. You have the option of speaking to a trained Crime Stoppers telecommunicator who will assign you a code number, or leaving an anonymous message. Rewards can only be paid when a code number is given. Either way, all information you provide is totally confidential. You will never be asked to testify in court, and the criminal will not know about your involvement in solving the crime.

Q. Are the Phones Traced?

A. Absolutely not! Crime Stoppers does not subscribe to "call display" or "caller ID." No one involved with Crime Stoppers knows the identity of the caller. The calls are never traced. To do so would destroy the trust in the program.

Q. How Do Callers Receive Their Rewards?

A. When the Crime Stoppers Board of Directors approves authorizing a reward, the confidential code number will be publicized through the news media. If your tip qualifies for a reward, please call the Crime Stoppers tip line to verify your code number. A private meeting will be arranged to give you your reward. The amount will vary, depending on the nature of the crime. It could be as much as \$1,000 cash.



TIP LINE:
1-888-798-5900

WEB SITE
www.cvcrimestoppers.org

***Crime Doesn't Pay
but
Crime Stoppers Does
...Up to \$1,000***

*A program to encourage
citizens to call with information
that can help solve crime and
make our communities
safer places for our families*

***You Can Make a Difference
You Can Be a Crime Stopper***

*This program has the full endorsement of all area
law enforcement agencies*

History of Crime Stoppers

In 1976, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, a police detective, frustrated over a homicide investigation, convinced a TV station to do a re-enactment of the crime. The detective also offered a reward out of his own pocket. A caller responded the next day and within 72 hours of the telecast, the case was solved. This was the birth of the Crime Stoppers program. It's a program that gives cash for clues and has solved thousands of crimes.

About Central Virginia Crime Stoppers, Inc.

Central Virginia Crime Stoppers, Inc., is a non-profit corporation that brings together law enforcement, the community and the news media in a joint effort to solve crimes. Crime Stoppers pays cash rewards up to \$1,000 to people who call a special crime stoppers tip line and give enough information to help solve crimes. Callers do not have to give their names. All callers are given a code number and the tip line does not have caller ID.

The Central Virginia Crime Stoppers project represents an unprecedented level of cooperation and support from the following:

City of Lynchburg	City of Bedford
Amherst County	Appomattox County
Bedford County	Campbell County
Nelson County	Town of Altavista
Town of Amherst	Town of Brookneal
Liberty University	Federal Bureau of Investigation

Who Benefits From Crime Stoppers? YOU Do!

The Crime Stoppers program has a proven track record across the nation and is making our community, and your home, a safer place in which to live. Crime Stoppers also has a presence in area secondary schools with in-school Crime Stoppers programs.

From January 1998 until March 2000, this program has resulted in 56 cases being solved. Stolen property valued at \$22,000 was recovered and \$6,000 worth of narcotics were removed from the streets.

Here's How It Works

Each week, facts about an unsolved crime are provided by our area law enforcement agencies to television, radio and area newspapers. In publicizing these "crimes of the week," the news media will ask citizens to call Crime Stoppers if they have any information that may be helpful in solving that particular crime or any other unsolved crime.

◀ The Crime Stoppers number is a toll-free call and can be accessed from any locality in Central Virginia. Look under "Crime Stoppers" in the business white pages in the Lynchburg and Bedford directories.

1-888-798-5900

◀ The Crime Stoppers Board of Directors (composed of all citizens, no law enforcement officers) then meets to review and decide on reward recommendations made by law enforcement coordinators.

◀ People who call Crime Stoppers are never seen by the police, remain anonymous and receive rewards up to \$1,000 in cash. They never reveal their names or testify in court. Anonymity and confidentiality are the keys to the success of the program.

We Need Your Help!

The money for Crime Stoppers rewards comes from people just like you: people who care about reducing crime; people who care about making their neighborhoods better places in which to live; people who care about helping their local law enforcement officers get the job done.

Central Virginia Crime Stoppers, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization that uses no tax dollars. It relies on your generosity. Individuals, businesses, corporations, clubs, professional associations, retailers, and civic and church groups can all MAKE A DIFFERENCE by donating money, goods and services. All donations are tax deductible.

Please help us provide funding for Crime Stoppers. Crime Stoppers has proven itself in communities around the world and now it is a success story in Central Virginia. YOU can be a Crime Stopper. Send your check today:

Central Virginia Crime Stoppers, Inc.
P.O. Box 2682
Lynchburg, VA 24501

Get a Speaker for Your Organization:

To get a Crime Stoppers speaker for your club, association, school or church or to get other information, call the Greater Lynchburg Chamber of Commerce at (804) 845-5966. The Chamber will make arrangements with an appropriate Crime Stoppers Board Member.